

Final Wrap-Up Session
Indianapolis, IN
November 1, 2006

Nebraska

- Talking about continuing transition (clusters/pathways)
- Focused on 3 areas
 - Systems development – sec/postsec alignment.
 - Focusing on professional development of teachers
 - Program of Study development
- Still have mindsets to change within state
- 267 school districts, but 15 standalones – rest are consortia
 - Schools saying small pot of money isn't worth it
 - Have to sell them on Perkins (working to change entitlement approach)

North Carolina

- Sent groups to all 3 meetings, not much planning here
- Strengths
 - Computerized local planning and data collection system
 - Inter-course testing system
 - Articulation agreement with community college system
 - State control over curriculum
- Challenges
 - Time to re-do computerized system – done in 1998
 - 100% turnover of secondary admin since last state plan
 - Only 1 person from last postsec state plan
 - Facing reorganization depending on state board of education
- Working on a complete re-engineering of curriculum
- Articulation agreements – looking to expand to 4 year system... credit transfer

Kansas

- Biggest challenge from postsec is to look at programs of study and making them work within system
- Good guidance received on keeping system flexible for training needs
- Moving to statewide articulation – looking to make Tech Prep articulation statewide
- Looking to improve communication
- Chosen to merge Tech Prep – Programs should occur in every institution
- Beginning a workforce study for state to see if education aligns with needs of businesses

- Looking at ways to use reserve fund to encourage local improvements

Kentucky

- Did preliminary work before workshop – contacted stakeholders required to be involved. Meeting scheduled for Nov. 6 and 20. Meeting with workshop group on 14th.
- Discussed transition/6 year plan.
- More advantages to merging Tech Prep – leaning in that direction
- Reserve fund would give flexibility – looking to use that in the future
- Split – 49/51 secondary/postsecondary
- Issues that need to be resolved:
 - Three areas: Accountability, definitions, and fiscal
 - Will present to steering committee for resolution

Arkansas

- Will do transition plan
- Making decision on Tech Prep in December
- Reserve fund undecided
- Technical assessments defined
- Programs of study challenge: taking what's there and making them consistent with what the law is
- Issue with definition of high wage/skill/demand
- Adding comprehensive resource site for coordinators

Tennessee

- Brought people from secondary/postsecondary
- Been meeting with each other since July
- Trying to build capacity for team to bring the message back to Tennessee committee (about 30 people)
- Biggest challenge will be changing mindsets

Oklahoma

- Going to use act to change mindsets
- Came away with good best practices
- Left with a list of actions by month and decision points to be made
- Going to use document of key questions

Virginia

- Looking at challenges as opportunities
- Governors supportive of CTE

- Sec of Education announced Perkins IV will be an opportunity to bring CTE and academics together as “education”
- Utilizing testing assessments within strategic plan
- Challenge will be with testing assessments – needs to go beyond industry certification
- Talked about technical assistance for local divisions

Indiana

- Treated workshop as the beginning of a journey – newer staff
- Aligning with stakeholders
- Giving a workshop for locals on Perkins next week
- Set a plan and a vision for CTE in Indiana
- Made a laundry list of items that needs to be prioritized
- Many challenges ahead
- They have a good system around high skill/wage. Contact them for details

Colorado

- Brought 20 people to workshop
- Developing a strategic plan around community college system
- Has had Tech Prep for 20 years in CO, but will merge into basic grant
- Will have new governor next week, a new commission on higher education.
- Developed articulation agreements already – will tweak
- They have 5000 courses in community college system
- Articulation among CTE schools for automatic credit transfer
- Opportunity to build career pathways for every student in CO

Ohio

- Have not made Tech Prep decision, other than being committed to fund Tech Prep activities
- Ohio has a 10th grade graduation test requirement – challenge being held accountable for that test before they have the chance to make an impact
 - Provides an opportunity as well in merging academics and CTE
- Brought 13 team members to workshop
- Ohio about to complete standards for all 16 clusters
 - Can use programs of study to create implementation of the standards
- Team discussions are difficult to have – set ground-rules:
 - Jobs are all secure
 - If you have a complaint to voice about the law, you may do so, but you must translate it into an opportunity and voice that as well

- For distribution of money, “What essential activity do you have the capacity to deliver and how much will it cost?” No entitlements, must wear a “common good hat”
- Creating a new vision in no way diminishes former visions or accomplishments

Michigan

- Will do transition plan
- Considering reserve for first time
- Heard idea for using reserve for new and emerging occupations
- Use of reserve for comprehensive professional development
- Will keep Tech Prep separate
 - No state system for state, however, asked consortia to form a partnership for data collection
- Challenges:
 - Technical attainment. Tough to come to consensus; local control state.
 - Committed to 16 career clusters; next step is programs of study. Challenge to align those
 - Making a meaningful connection to workforce development